

# SUNDAY CELEBRATION

MARCH 24, 2019

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

CHRIST'S CHURCH WITH ITS DOORS OPEN WIDE

11:00 A.M.

## Weekly

9:30 a.m. Church School

11:00 a.m. Worship  
Communion  
first Sunday  
of each month

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

*Dedicated to the Glory of God on September 13, 1885  
Highlands, North Carolina*

## Gather in God's Name

*Please silence cell phones and quiet your voices, giving our attention to the presence of God in our midst*

**Childcare is available in the nursery**  
**Large print hymnals available—see usher**  
**\*Indicates that those who are able may stand**

### Ringing of the Church Bell

**Prelude** "Angelus" Henriette Renié  
Kela Walton, *Harpist*

**Welcome** Chad Lucas

### \*Opening Litany

Leader: Our God, here in this sanctuary we gather to worship you,  
***People: for you have set your name in this place.***  
Leader: Now, before these witnesses we will rejoice.  
***People: Here we present to you the offering of our lives.***  
Leader: Here we pledge our obedience to you,  
***People: to do what is right in your eyes with the Holy Spirit and in your Word.***

*Based on Psalm 12*

**\*Processional Hymn #307** "God of Grace and God of Glory" CMW RHONDDA

### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

***Our gracious God, we admit that we have gone astray from your ways. Our faces are turned aside, our vision is poor, and our paths are crooked. Confusion often makes us judgmental, and self-pity and pride makes us selfish. We find ourselves to be our own worst enemies and even enemies with our loved ones. Lord, redirect our lives; bring us prodigal children home to you and renew our living. Stretch us by your Spirit as you subdue our fears. Set our minds and hearts to follow you in Jesus Christ. (Moment of silent individual confession) Amen.***

### Response Hymn 698

***Take, O take me as I am,  
summon out what I shall be,  
set your seal upon my heart and live in me. (3x)***

### Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.  
***People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!***

### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
***People: And also with you.***

## Proclaim God's Word

**Children's Moment** Curtis Fussell

**Anthem** "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Philip Stopford  
Chancel Choir

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,  
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.  
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven guide; Oh, receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on Thee;  
leave, ah! Leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all my help from Thee I bring;  
cover my defenseless head with the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in Thee I find;  
raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is Thy Name, I am all unrighteousness;  
False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;  
let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.  
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of Thee;  
spring Thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity. Amen.

**Scripture Reading** Luke 13:1-9

**Sermon** *Lessons from the Wilderness* Curtis Fussell  
"One More Chance"

### \*Affirmation of Faith

***Jesus announced the coming of God's kingdom and its hidden presence in the midst of the world's kingdoms. He taught his disciples to seek God's kingdom first. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives in pilgrimage toward God's kingdom. Our confidence and hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievements of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen.***

*From A Declaration of Faith (1977)*

**\*Gloria Patri** GREATOREX

***Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

*Hymn 581*

## Give Thanks To God

### Celebration of Ministry and Membership

(Please sign and pass the friendship registry pad  
and then return it so you can know your neighbors in God's household today.)

## Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

## Offering Our Gifts for the Work of God's Kingdom

**Offertory** "His Name is Love" Frank Voltz

**\*Doxology** OLD HUNDREDETH  
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*  
*Hymn 606*

## \*Prayer of Dedication

# Go In God's Name To Serve

**\*Hymn #435** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" IN BABILONE

## \*Charge and Benediction

**\*Postlude** "Allegro" Domenico Zipoli

### Participating in Today's Service:

Michael Lancaster, Director of Worship/Music  
Angie Jenkins, Organist/Music Coordinator

### Our Greeters today are:

Delaine & Tom Nelson, Gena Smith, and Suzy Tamplin

*Flowers for the sanctuary are presented by Don and Betty Fisher  
to the Glory of God and in loving memory of  
the Crawford family: James, Mattie, Charles and Jimmy.*

### **Please keep in your prayers these members and friends of the congregation:**

Frances Boggess (Sally Copeland's niece), Foster Boone (Marty Boone's brother), Steve Castellaw, Wayne Coleman, Blanche Fenner (Karen Sullivan's mother), Marc Good (Frances Hicks' brother), Cecil Hines (Sally Copeland's sister), Makenzie Howard (Pam & Bill Peacock's granddaughter), Linda Lancaster, Ethan Lassiter (grandson of Marianne & E.G. Lassiter), Ashley Turner Leverett (daughter of Peggy and Scott Turner), Elizabeth Mauldin (Bill Mauldin's daughter), Nina McMahan and family upon the death of Terry McMahan, Arnall Page (son of Dr. & Mrs. John Page), David Seaton (son of Nell and Charles Seaton), Beth Sellers (Anne Sellers' daughter-in-law), Veda & Jimmy Sherard, Kay Smith and Robert Whaley (Judy Joyner's cousin).

### **Please keep in your prayers these members in the community and beyond:**

Harriet Bauknight, Mike Bobo, Caroline Cook, Jodie Cook, Dianne Copeland, Lyle Cox, Agnes Crowe, Steve Foster, Jackson Hall, K.C. Hembree, Billie Jean Hendrix, Jeff James, Donna Kneeland, Cherry Martin, Beth Moore (Wally Patzke's wife), Lil Murphy, Melanie Nix, Eliza Parish, Seth Satterwhite, Jim Shearon, Gene Talley, Lil Waller and Woodrow Wilson.

### **WE WELCOME GUESTS** who are worshipping with us today.

If you are seeking a church home and would like to follow Jesus Christ through the fellowship of this congregation, we invite you to full or affiliate membership. For more information, please speak with one of the ministers after worship, or call the church office.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, March 24	11:00	Morning Worship Service
	12:00—4:00	Session Retreat in Coleman Hall
Monday, March 25	8:00	Men's Prayer Breakfast —Highlander Room —See announcement
Tuesday, March 26	4:00	Book Club— <i>Queen Elizabeth</i> by Brad Felver —The Ugly Dog Public House —See announcement
	6:00	Community Table Dinner —Community Building
Wednesday, March 27	3:00	Staff Meeting
	4:00	Sacred Sounds Bell Choir Rehearsal
	6:15	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, March 28	5:30	ESL/GED Dinner & Class —Westminster Room & Coleman Hall —see announcement

## SUNDAY, MARCH 31

9:30 Adult Education Class —Managing Anxiety Through Faith and Lifestyle  
—Library—see announcement  
11:00 Morning Worship Service  
Sacrament of Baptism —*Mary Baldwin Shaw*  
Linda Lancaster, *Flutist*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder for the month of March is Gena Smith.

### **Special thanks to today's guest musician:**

**Kela Walton** enjoys a varied career as a harp teacher and freelance performer, and is based in Spartanburg, SC. Before relocating to the Carolinas, Kela served as Interim Principal Harp with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra during the 2017-18 season and their 2018 tour in Poland. This season she has performed with the Asheville Symphony, Asheville Symphony Chorus, Carolina Concert Choir, Savannah Philharmonic, South Carolina Philharmonic, and Spartanburg Philharmonic. An innovative educator, Kela has maintained a private studio since 1998 and is a registered Suzuki Harp Instructor. Kela has authored articles for the *Harp Column* magazine and the *American Harp Journal*. Originally from Texas, Kela holds both a Master of Music in Harp Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Houston Moores School of Music as

well as a Bachelor of Music from the University of Texas at Austin.

**Men's Prayer Group**—The Men's Prayer Group meets every Monday at 8:00 a.m. in the Highlander Room. Meetings begin with devotion and prayer, and are followed by breakfast at a local restaurant. All men of the church are invited to join.

**The *Beyond the Walls* Book Club** meets every Tuesday, at 4 pm, at The Ugly Dog Public House. We are currently reading *The O. Henry Prize Stories 2018*, edited by Laura Furman. Books are available at Amazon.com or in the church office for \$12.00. You are invited to join this energetic group as we move our Christian faith Beyond the Walls!

**Dinner for ESL/GED classes**—FPCH will be providing dinner for the students of the Literacy Council's ESL and GED classes on the first Thursday of each month. If you are interested in signing up on your own or with a team of volunteers to provide food and hospitality to our guests (one time or many times!), please contact Emily at the church office.

**Managing Anxiety Through Faith and Lifestyle**—When it comes to anxiety and stress related illnesses, America is the frontrunner. Chances are you or someone you know struggles with anxiety. Join David Hodgson, Counseling Psychologist, for a Sunday morning series during the 9:30 Adult Education hour to promote a faith based approach to managing anxiety and improving your quality of life. The series takes place during Lent and meets in the church Library.

**The Food Pantry** is collecting egg cartons. Please recycle your egg cartons by bringing them to the church and placing them in the labeled box located in the Ravenel Room.

**The 2019 Flower Calendar** —To provide flowers in honor of a loved one, please fill out a flower leaflet and the flower calendar located upstairs in the main hallway. Contributions to the flower fund are always appreciated.

**Service of Wholeness and Healing** —On Sunday, April 7, we will have a Service of Wholeness and Healing at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary. This service is designed to provide worshipers with a space to pray and reflect on the needs in their lives, whether they are seeking healing or wholeness for themselves, a loved one, or the earth. There will be music, hands-on exercises for reflection, and time for contemplation and prayer. All are welcome, dress is casual. We hope you will include this service in your Lenten discipline.



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